

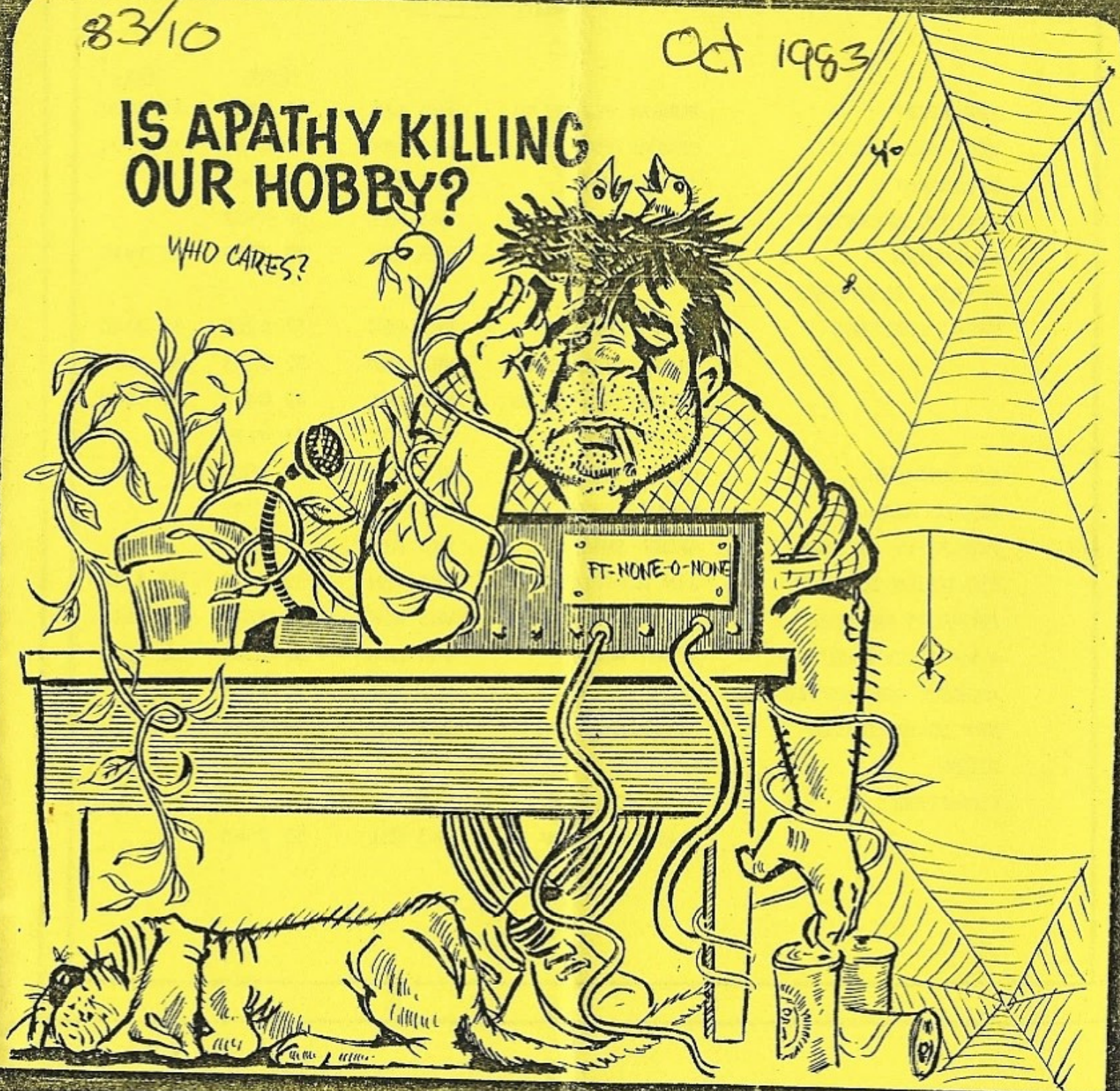
# BARRAC NEWS

83/10

Oct 1983

## IS APATHY KILLING OUR HOBBY?

WHO CARES?



**Monthly Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group**

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST, PUBLICATION NO. VBH3397



# THE big wheel



|                               |                  |         | <u>Home</u> | <u>Bus.</u> |
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| <i>NEWS LETTER EDITOR</i>     | HENRY MORITZ     | VK3 DXC | 32 7569     | 30 1800     |
| <i>ASSIST. NEWSLETTER ED.</i> | CLEM JARVIS      | VK3 YDI | 31 4179     |             |
| <i>NET CO-ORDINATOR</i>       | CLIFF BILSTON    | VK3 PAF | 34 7626     |             |
| <i>WICEN</i>                  |                  |         |             |             |
| <i>COMMITTEE</i>              | BILL JOHNSON     | VK3 DWJ | 40 2288     |             |
|                               | HARRY HEKKEMA    | VK3 KGL | 35 7563     |             |





Every editor of every newsletter ever put to press has had the same hassles since time began,-apathy. Nobody really reads the newsletter anyway,they say,so why bother?It'll get done somehow by somebody else,- who cares? Well,dammit,- I DO!!

Rather than go through the same song-and-dance routine every lousy issue,begging for some meagre crumbs of participation, I just thought I'd let you know that this will be the last issue you're going to get,unless I get some firm commitments from interested parties,- if any. No dramatics,no tantrums or tearful pleadings,- not even a hiccough,- just a quiet c.u.l.

Remember what they told you about your band allocations? "USE IT OR LOSE IT"....it's pretty much the same story here,and I have no intention of sitting up several evenings in a row,to scratch together a mag which,it seems,nobody wants anyhow.

I tried,but my earlier warnings apparently were just a bit of a joke to most,and after the initial rather good response,all went back into hibernation as per usual.If it really is just another piece of junk mail to you.- WHO NEEDS IT????

Let's give the poor thing a decent burial and save the expenses for something else,like a club rig or the like.

Finally, I would like to remind all those who have STILL not renewed their subscription,that these are way overdue by now. Last count,therewere some 120 hams listed in this area in the call book,of which less than 50 were paid up members.

Signs of the times? More apathy afoot?

Nobody really is THAT broke,I think.

73 for now,and it's been fun while it lasted,for a short while.

Your(ex?) Editor

DXC



# Just one more minute...

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Minutes of General Meeting held 30th Sept. 1983.

Meeting called to order by President Murray at 8.00pm.

APOLOGIES Ted NIZ. Stan SE. Dick AEX. Bob BNC. John Hazeltine.

VISITORS Pres Murray welcomed SWL. Horst, and Peter DTY as new members and congratulated Ron XQA on receiving his call sign.

MINUTES as printed in news letter confirmed.

INWARD CORRESPONDENCE Geelong Radio Club News; The Propagator; Sebastopol Community Centre.

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE C.F.A. re use of Firestation as clubrooms. Sebastopol Community Centre re clubroom.

TREASURERS REPORT showing a credit balance of \$859.86 was accepted and accounts totalling \$120.00 passed for payment.

QSL MANAGER Cliff reported 244 cards out and 1177 <sup>in?</sup> out, he also stated that 26000 cards were sorted by himself assisted by Fred NIH and Bill DWZ, on behalf of the Bureau. The Club passed a vote of thanks for this effort.

CLUB NET Cliff reported that Club members support was excellent; however, there were fewer call-in stations, possibly because of poor conditions.

AWARDS MANAGER Maurie; awards sent out in the last two months were; - 25 Goldrush, 26 D.X. Widows and 16 Western Zone. Club awards had good coverage in the new Call Book and should be in next months A.R.A. magazine.

PUBLICITY. Geoff reminded members about Ararat Convention. Letter sent to A.R.A. re awards.

TECHNICAL Officer Phil reported that the new pre-amps had been installed on repeater giving a 10db gain. The new power amplifier is nearly ready for installation and a working bee is necessary to tie down razor ribbon.

NEWS LETTER CONTRIBUTIONS URGENTLY NEEDED.

GENERAL BUSINESS Hank NIA asked members for contributions of sniffers and beepers to be used at WIA Convention at Ararat.

A vote of thanks was given to Max YMW for selling posters at Mooroopna.

MOTIONS. Moved Bill DWJ seconded Cliff PAF, That Club try to obtain a room at Education Centre for holding Committee meetings. Motion passed.

Moved Maurie XEX seconded Hank NIA, That Keith NWN continue as co-signee of cheques on the Awards account. Motion Passed.

Moved Cliff PAF seconded Bill DWJ, That secretary write to WIA Western Zone requesting clarification from the Executive on the following points; - Should the club be paying postage on inward QSL cards when country members are entitled to free postings.

Why are direct QSLs addressed to members care of the bureau being opened, and to express the dissatisfaction of members with the operation of the QSL bureau. Motion Passed.

Moved Henry DXC seconded Hank NIA, That fee for Associate Members be \$7.50 per annum. Motion passed.

GENERAL BUSINESS Room available at Sebastopol Community Centre was inspected and found to be too small.

Secretary requested to write to KET, DRO, PEC, and NWV informing them that Associate Membership is now available; also to Ballarat Astronomical Scty. requesting permission to instal Beacon in Observatory grounds Mt. Pleasant, and to Lakeside Canoe Club offering assistance with communications at Red Cross-A-Thon on Lake Wendouree.

President Murray reminded members about JOTA weekend

The official part of the meeting then closed at 9.05pm.

# HEY YOU!



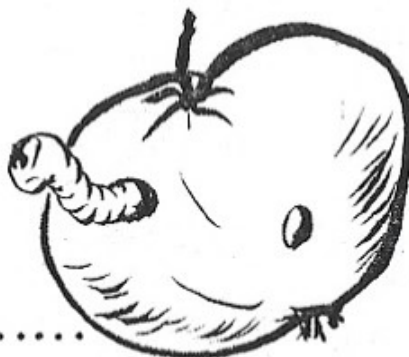
SUBSCRIPTION

# DUE NOW!

SO-SHMARTEN UP!  
N' PAY UP!



83/10



## TALK ABOUT ROTTEN APPLES.....

Last meeting, Secretary Jim VZD had to leave early due to other commitments. Early, but yet too late. Some rotten swine had stolen his 80m mobile antenna from top of his car while the meeting was in progress. No mean loss in financial terms alone, but to suffer it while attending a radio club meeting is really rubbing it in. Other members would do well to make sure their antennae are secured, next time round, and maybe a "spotter" wouldn't go amiss? And right outside the cop shop???

## MORE USEFUL HINTS.....WHEN CAPACITORS ARE NOT.

Approximate resonant frequencies, when the original lead lengths are shortened at the ends:

## MICA CAPS

47pF - 206 MHz  
 100 " - 154 "  
 270 " - 90 "  
 390 " - 70 "  
 470 " - 60 "  
 560 " - 50 "

## DISC CAPS

.001 - 60 MHz  
 .002 - 40 "  
 .005 - 23 "  
 .01 - 15 "  
 .02 - 9 "  
 .1 - 4.2 "

(Information supplied by Stan VK3SE)

## Some things in life have a special quality

25 Ft. FREE STANDING TOWER complete with C E 4/2 Beam (10 & 15m) and KENPRO Rotator, - breaks my heart to let them go, - but alas....  
 \$ 150 the lot, O.N.O. Keith NWN Phone 425 833

JOHNSON VIKING Portable rig, converted to 10m, including mobile bracket and extension speaker: \$80.00 Hank NIA

45 Ft. Free standing tower In good condition: \$80.00 Hank NIA

SWR 200 OSKERBLOCK in near new condition; a "must" for any amateur shack and a bargain at \$ 70.00

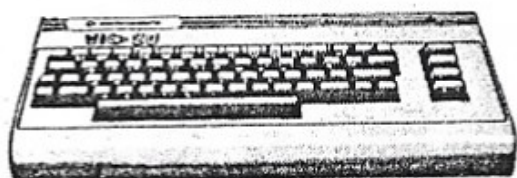
(Prices for any of the above are negotiable. Hank NIA (393 332))

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**VIC-20 & COMMODORE 64**

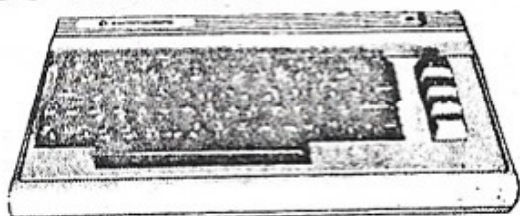
# Computers

**VIC 20**



**\$299**

**COMMODORE 64**



**\$499**

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Daylesford Newsagency  
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55 VINCENT ST, DAYLESFORD

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83/10

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*CALL US OR SEE BRIAN STARES, VK3 ZBS/NVI*

*COAX, Rotator and L.T. Cable, Plugs and connectors, Transistors and IC's, Aerials and assorted parts always in stock. Call for prices and information.*

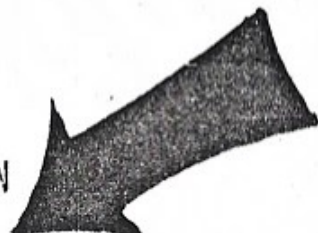
**EVERYTHING FROM A TO Z IN ELECTRONICS**



**WESTERN ZONE CONVENTION**

**30 OCT. 1983**

**SUNDAY PROGRAMME**



|              |                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1000 - 1030  | 40 METER SCRAMBLE                        |
| 1000 - 1030  | 10 METER SCRAMBLE (NOVICE) 28400-28600   |
| 1045 - 1115  | 80 METER'S TALKING FOX<br>(MAP SUPPLIED) |
| 1130 - 1200  | 2 METER FOX HUNT                         |
| DINNER BREAK |                                          |
| 1300 - 1315  | 2 METER FM SCRAMBLE 40,50,51             |
| 1330 - 1345  | BEEPER HUNT 2 METER.                     |
| 1400 - 1415  | 11 METER FOX HUNT                        |
| 1430 - 1500  | 10 METER FOX HUNT (28350) -              |

**NB. IF TIME AVAILABLE AND REQUIRED A 80 METER  
HIDDEN TRANSMITTER WILL BE HELD.**

**I WONDER WHO'S HOLDING IT NOW?**  
ED



# Chasing Awards? <sup>83/10</sup>

A New award is being offered to Radio Amateurs.  
Called the "GOLD RUSH AWARD", it is sponsored by the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group. \*

THE AWARD is a distinctive, 300mm x 250mm, bright-gold backed certificate, depicting a scene reminiscent of the 1850's gold fields. It had been designed and produced by local amateur and artist Henry Moritz, VK3DXC, and the award can either be framed as is or else peeled off its support paper and applied to almost any smooth surface for best effect, such as Laminex, plywood, glass, perspex etc etc. I would certainly make a very pleasing addition to any ham shack.

## CONDITIONS:

Qualification for this award can be achieved in a number of ways: A) DX-stations (outside the VK call area) must contact five(5) Ballarat stations on any band/any mode.

B) Local or VK stations can qualify for the award by contacting ten(10) local amateurs as defined by the Ballarat call area

## C) ALTERNATIVELY:

You can also qualify by contacting five(5) Ballarat area stations and a further five(5) Associate members of the BARG to make up the ten stations required. Associate members may be located outside the actual Ballarat call area. Again, contacts may be made any band/any mode. The cost of the award is \$A3.00 (or its equivalent) and ensures safe mailing and robust packing.

## FREQUENCIES AND TIMES

The Ballarat Amateur Radio Group (under the club call VK3BML) conducts a weekly net each Thursday at 1030 UTC on 3.610 MHz. We welcome check-ins, - so please drop by and work toward the award or just call in for a friendly chat. Your company is always appreciated. By the way... Have you got one of our famous "DX-WIDOW'S AWARDS" for the XYL yet? Don't miss out!

AWARD APPLICATIONS and further info direct to:

AWARDS MANAGER,  
Maurie Batt, VK3XEX  
R.S.D. Rokewood Junction  
Vic., 3351, AUSTRALIA

OR:

BALLARAT A.R.G.  
P.O. BOX 216E  
BALLARAT East  
Vic., 3350, Australia



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THE ADVENTURES OF NORMAN B. GOODHAM , VK1ØGBN.

Young Norm had been quiet on the amateur radio scene for a while, due to his family commitments. However, one day, he almost got the shock of his life. His darling XYL came up to him as he was tuning his "You-beaut" rig around the bands, and said that she had been thinking that if you can't beat them, then join them. That is, she wanted Norm to teach her all about ham radio.

Norm reeled back in horror and amazement. Once he had regained his composure, he decided to start at the basics, namely, atomic theory. Now, Norm might know what he is talking about, but he is no teacher. No sooner than he had mentioned the word "atomic", that his poor wife thought immediately of nuclear energy. Norm however, forgot to explain that an atomic generating station was not necessary to power his equipment. His wife, looking at all his racks of valve gear, had other ideas.

Anyway, they eventually sorted out that problem; when they went on to resistor colour coding. This got his XYL completely lost. She just could not get the colours in their correct order. By this time, Norm's wife was getting rather bored with the whole process, and was about to give up. Norm sensed that something was wrong, so he decided to change tactics. He decided to give her some on-air practice. So, over he trundled to his racks of gear, turned on a few switches, turned a few dials, and the rest, by which time the valves had warmed up sufficiently. Just as he was about to talk, all hell broke loose inside his rig. Smoke started belching out, all the lights on the rig went out, and a horrible acrid smell emanated from the set. Then, his wife decided that enough was enough, and she got up and went inside to watch her favorite soapie.

So poor Norm went back to his old ways and decided that he could not teach his wife the joys of ham radio, no matter how much he tried.

ANN OMINOUS.

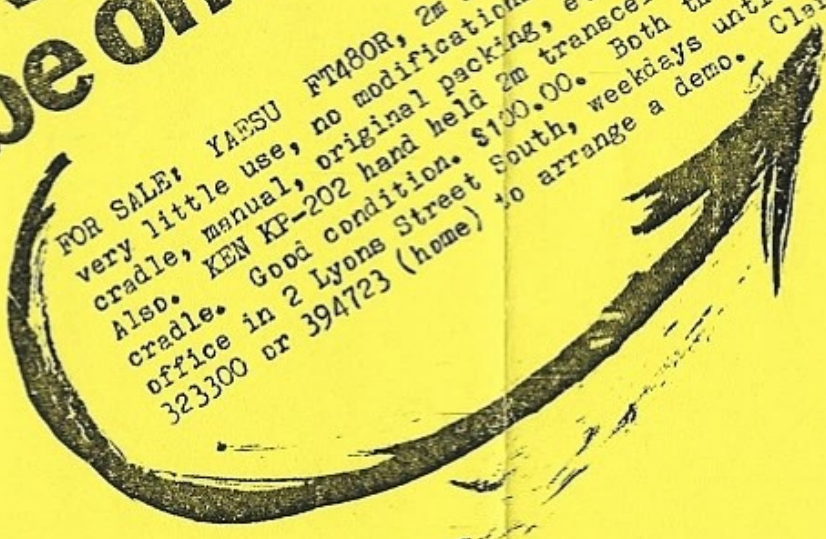


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**At these prices, they won't  
be on show much longer.**

FOR SALE: YAESU FT480R, 2m All mode transceiver. Excellent condition,  
very little use, no modifications. 4 memories, 2 VFOs, scanning mic,  
cradle, manual, original packing, etc. etc. \$325.00 OKO.  
Also. KEN KP-202 hand held 2m transceiver. New set nicaais, recharging  
cradle. Good condition. \$100.00. Both these items may be viewed at my  
office in 2 Lyons Street South, weekdays until 6.30pm, or ring me on  
323300 or 394723 (home) to arrange a demo. Clarry VK3DMK.





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